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directions.

## ***TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOP SHOWCASES BENEFITS OF ADVANCED RINSE WATER RECYCLING SYSTEMS***

The K.C. Jones Plating Company, Warren, hosted a pollution prevention (P2) technology demonstration workshop in August. Individuals from plating companies, environmental consulting firms, equipment vendors, universities, and regulatory agencies received in-depth information on the successful adoption of advanced rinse water recycling systems for minimizing chemical discharges in the electroplating process. The workshop was the culmination of a matching grant awarded to Wayne State University (WSU) to research the P2 benefits of (experimental) zero discharge systems for the cleaning and electroplating of metal parts under actual production conditions.

The Laboratory for Multiscale Complex Systems, Science and Engineering at WSU integrated advanced rinse water recycling systems into the bronze cyanide plating line at K.C. Jones Plating. These changes successfully reduced water usage by 950,000 gallons per year, the usage of plating chemicals by 20 – 45 percent, and associated wastewater treatment costs by nearly 70 percent. The annual savings for the technology totaled more than \$56,000 with a simple payback of less than one year.

The Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program provides matching grants to Michigan universities under the Michigan Pollution Prevention Research Grant Program. This grant program is for continued research and development of P2 technologies, which have the potential to reduce the quantity or toxicity of specific environmental wastes currently generated by Michigan businesses. The intent of the grant program is to further the state's P2 efforts by fostering the development and accelerating the diffusion of innovative P2 technologies to Michigan businesses. For additional information, please contact David Herb of the DEQ, Environmental Science and Services Division, at 517-241-8176 or [herbdw@michigan.gov](mailto:herbdw@michigan.gov).

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### *DEQ ENCOURAGES HOMEOWNERS TO RAKE RESPONSIBLY*

With autumn here, the Department of Environmental Quality reminds residents to take care of yard waste in an environmentally responsible way. Mulching and composting are the best choices. We should refrain from burning leaves because the smoke and ash produced by burning leaves releases fine particles, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons into the air. It's unhealthy for adults in good physical shape and downright dangerous to children, older adults, and people with medical conditions such as allergies, asthma, or heart disease to breathe the smoke that contains irritating pollutants and cancer-causing compounds.



*Legal Burn Pile*

Homeowners are encouraged to demonstrate environmental stewardship during their fall yard clean-up. Families can still enjoy raking and jumping in piles of leaves on brisk autumn days; however, leaf burning creates unhealthy conditions and is illegal in many Michigan cities and communities. Composting is a much safer alternative.

In Michigan, leaves and yard waste cannot be sent to a landfill, so mulching and composting are simple, environmentally sound ways to manage most yard waste. The easiest option is to simply mow over leaves with a lawnmower to chop them into fine mulch. When left on a lawn, the mulch provides a number of needed nutrients for the grass that will keep it looking healthy.

Many communities have municipal composting programs. Your local city, township, or county Department of Public Works office can explain how they dispose of leaves and other yard waste.

In rural areas where burning yard waste is allowed, permits are required to burn leaves or brush. Homeowners are reminded to obtain a permit before burning and that they are responsible for damage caused by a fire they start.

For more information, go to [www.michigan.gov/deqair](http://www.michigan.gov/deqair) and select 'Open Burning Information' under Spotlight. The DEQ Environmental Assistance Center at 1-800-662-9278 can provide information as well.

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### *RADON ACTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 21-27*

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm has proclaimed October 21-27, 2007, to be Radon Action Week, and she is encouraging Michigan residents to observe the week by testing their homes for this tasteless, odorless, colorless, radioactive gas.



Radon occurs naturally in soil and rock and can be trapped under a home's foundation. It can make its way into the indoor environment through cracks and openings in the foundation floor or walls, and exposure over time can increase one's risk of lung cancer.

Studies show that more than one in eight Michigan homes would be likely to have an elevated radon level and, in some counties, more than 40 percent of the homes could have problems. Unfortunately, there is no way to predict which homes have a problem (the issue is not determined by the age of the home, the foundation type, or the energy efficiency), so it is recommended that ALL homes be tested.

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Testing is easy and inexpensive, and test kits are available from county health departments all across the state, usually for \$15 or less. (For a list of agency addresses and telephone numbers, visit the DEQ Web site at [www.michigan.gov/degradon](http://www.michigan.gov/degradon).) The test is done by exposing the device to the air in your home for a set period of time and when the measurement is completed, mailing the device back to a laboratory where it will be analyzed and a report sent back to the user.

When elevated radon levels are found, additional testing should be conducted to confirm the problem, and action should be taken to lower the levels. In some cases, the radon may be reduced by caulking and sealing the entry points, but for a guaranteed reduction, a trained contractor should be called to install a mechanical system that vents the gas from beneath the foundation and exhausts it above the roof.

For more information about Radon, visit [www.michigan.gov/degradon](http://www.michigan.gov/degradon) or contact the DEQ Radon Program at 1-800-RADON GAS (1-800-723-6642).

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### COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CORNER

**Q:** How do I transfer ownership for a wastewater discharge permit issued by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Water Bureau (WB)?

**A:** Transferring ownership under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Groundwater Discharge permit programs requires a letter and some supporting documentation. Groundwater Discharge and NPDES permits both contain specific permit conditions related to transfer of ownership or control. These permits specifically state:

*Compliance assistance staff are experienced environmental personnel in ESSD that specialize in the MDEQ's regulatory programs. Staff provide one-on-one and referral assistance on calls received by the Environmental Assistance Center. If you have any environmental question on which you need assistance, call 1-800-662-9278*

"In the event of any change in control or ownership of facilities from which the authorized discharge emanates, the permittee shall submit to the Department 30 days prior to the actual transfer of ownership or control a written agreement between the current permittee and the new permittee containing:

- 1) The legal name and address of the new owner;
- 2) A specific date for the effective transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability; and
- 3) A certification of the continuity of or any changes in operations, wastewater discharge, or wastewater treatment.

If the new permittee is proposing changes in operations, wastewater discharge, or wastewater treatment, the Department may propose modification of this permit in accordance with applicable laws and rules."

#### Existing Permittee Requirements

There is no form for this request and a notification letter containing the above information from the existing permittee to MDEQ, with a copy to the new permittee, would fulfill their permit notification obligations. The letter should be mailed to MDEQ, WB, Permits Section, PO Box 30273, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7773. The **WB District Supervisor** should also be copied as a notification of the plan to change ownership and pending modification request.

#### New Owner Requirements

Upon completion of the sale, the new owner should submit a letter to the WB Permits Section requesting that the permit file and permit document be modified to reflect the change in ownership. Any planned changes in process or discharge shall be identified in this letter, along with any changes to the

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facility contact, billing contact, certified operator, and any address changes.

The letter should state that the new permittee will comply with the terms and conditions of the permit and shall be signed by a representative of the new permittee at the following level:

- Corporation: by the principal executive officer, vice president, or higher level; or his/her designated representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge described originates.
- Partnership: by a general partner.
- Sole proprietorship: by the proprietor.
- Municipal, state, or other public facility: by a principal executive officer, the mayor, village president, city or village manager, or other duly authorized employee.

The Permits Section will not modify the permit documents until after the change in ownership has been completed. Change in ownership is a minor modification, which does not require payment of a fee. The letter should be mailed to DEQ, WB, Permits Section, PO Box 30273, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7773, with a copy to the WB District Supervisor.

#### **NPDES Industrial Storm Water Permit Program**

A transfer of ownership form has been developed for use in this program. It can be found online at: [www.michigan.gov/deqwater](http://www.michigan.gov/deqwater), select "Surface Water" then "Storm Water" and then "Industrial Storm Water Program." The facility with coverage on December 31 will be billed for the annual storm water fee for that year. The request should be mailed to the WB Permits Section as listed on the form with a copy to the WB District Supervisor.

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### ***GREEN BUILDING & DEMOLITION***

For over two years, the DEQ's Green Building & Demolition website has been providing resources to help reduce the environmental impact of the construction industry. Green building efforts address design issues involving: air quality and health (paint, carpet and ventilation), energy savings, and reducing resources needed for building operations (water efficient toilets). Recycling of construction wastes is one small part of the effort generating a lot of interest in green building practices. Recently, with the help of funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DEQ resources for recycling construction waste were expanded significantly. DEQ staff from several divisions worked together to develop a successful outreach effort that included:

- Workshops: Twelve workshops and presentations on construction waste recycling were held at several locations across the state.
  - Web site: A Web site was created to provide a one-stop-shop for construction waste related resources.
  - Fact sheets: Fact sheets have been developed for drywall, wood, pvc, and pallets. Fact sheets for recycling roof shingles and paint are being drafted. These fact sheets provide ideas for recycling the material and information on related regulations. When available, the fact sheets will be posted on the Web site.
  - Shingle recycling: DEQ Waste and Hazardous Materials Division staff developed a new exemption on recycling roof shingles and is working with Air Quality Division staff in permitting the first ever shingle recycling companies in Michigan.
  - FAQ: A FAQ on construction waste was developed to answer commonly asked questions from both citizens and businesses including what permits are needed for recycling. The FAQ is available on-line at [www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-p2tas-faq-cdwaste\\_197547\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ess-p2tas-faq-cdwaste_197547_7.pdf).
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- Local Recycling: The list of Michigan companies involved in recycling construction wastes in the Michigan Recycled Materials Market Directory at [www.michigan.gov/deqrmmd](http://www.michigan.gov/deqrmmd) has been updated and revised to be more user friendly. This helps identify local resources to encourage recycling and promotes Michigan businesses.

Visit [www.michigan.gov/deqconstruction](http://www.michigan.gov/deqconstruction) to view construction and demolition resource information.

### *RECYCLING RESOURCES: NEW AND UPDATED*

#### **Michigan Recycling Materials Market Directory (RMMD) 2007 Update Now Available**

The RMMD has been updated with new information about recyclers of everything from soup to nuts, or more accurately, drums to tires. The Directory is exclusively on-line at [www.michigan.gov/deqrmmd](http://www.michigan.gov/deqrmmd). New this year are lists of popular materials including paint, toner cartridges, pallets, plastics and more in pdf format. The lists are updated from the on-line database on a monthly basis. If you need a list of recyclables that is not posted, please contact Lucy Doroshko at 517-373-1322 or [doroshkl@michigan.gov](mailto:doroshkl@michigan.gov).

#### **Michigan Recycling Clip Art, Now On-line**

In the 1980s, Michigan had clip art developed to help local programs promote themselves to residents. These graphics are now available on-line by visiting [www.michigan.gov/deqrecycling](http://www.michigan.gov/deqrecycling) and clicking on the link under "Information." Everything from illustrations of bottles and cans to slogans can be downloaded and used in posters, flyers, and promotional pieces. Below are examples of what clipart is available:



### *PUBLIC HEARING FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE RULE REVISIONS*

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has developed proposed amendments to the hazardous waste management rules (SOAHR 2006-065EQ). A public hearing to solicit comments on the amendments is being held in the ConCon Conference Room, Constitution Hall, Atrium South, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan. These rules are necessary for the department to maintain its federal authorization from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The amendments improve the overall quality of the rules; reduce regulatory barriers, resource demands, and some of the regulatory burdens on the regulated community; and provide flexibility, streamlined requirements, and the clarity necessary to alleviate confusion and inconsistent interpretations. Copies of the amendments are available via the Web through the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules at [www.michigan.gov/soahr](http://www.michigan.gov/soahr). Copies of the rules are also available by contacting the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Waste and Hazardous Materials Division, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741. Written comments should be sent to the address above no later than October 30, 2007. Information Contact: Ronda L. Blayer, Waste and Hazardous Materials Division, 517-373-9548.



**NEW PUBLICATION**

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has put together a publication specific to diesel fleet owners who may want to participate in the Small Business P2 Loan program. The Small Business P2 Loan Program (P2 Loan Program) provides loans of up to \$400,000 at an interest rate of 5% or less to existing independently owned businesses with 500 or fewer full time employees. Projects that qualify for P2 loan funding include those that either eliminate or reduce waste at the business location (source reduction), result in environmentally sound reuse and recycling for the loan applicant's generated wastes, conserve energy or water on-site, or are a qualified agricultural energy production system. The publication outlines the P2 Loan Program and possible projects applicable to diesel fleet owners. For further information on the P2 Loan Program, including application forms, go to:

[www.michigan.gov/deqp2](http://www.michigan.gov/deqp2), click on 'P2 Project Financing'. Please consider posting this information link on your own web site and/or including in a newsletter publication.

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**EVENTS**

OCTOBER 12-14, 2007

**MICHIGAN ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION FALL CONFERENCE, RAM CENTER, HIGGINS LAKE.** The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is presenting an update of the Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support at this conference.

Information Contact: Thomas Occhipinti, Executive Division, 517-373-2379, or [occhipit@michigan.gov](mailto:occhipit@michigan.gov)

General conference information: [www.michiganenvironmentaled.org/mainevents.html](http://www.michiganenvironmentaled.org/mainevents.html)

OCTOBER 16-17, 2007

**MICHIGAN'S PREMIER PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE, HYATT REGENCY, DEARBORN.**

This conference will bring together Michigan's public health professionals to celebrate the achievements of the past year and to plan together how best to improve the health of Michigan's citizens. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is a partner on this event. Updated conference information is available at [www.malphp.org](http://www.malphp.org)

Information Contact: Julie Zdybel, Michigan Association for Local Public Health, 517-485-0660, or [jzdybel@malphp.org](mailto:jzdybel@malphp.org)

OCTOBER 17, NOVEMBER 21, DECEMBER 12, 2007

JANUARY 16, FEBRUARY 20, 2008

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**MONTHLY AIR PERMIT APPLICATION WORKSHOP FOR FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS, CONSTITUTION HALL, LANSING, MICHIGAN.** For most first-time applicants, completing the Permit to Install application is a daunting task. However, submitting a complete and timely application can be more manageable if you know what's expected. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is offering this workshop designed to give information on how to submit a complete permit application. Since this workshop is geared to first-time applicants, a significant portion of the session is devoted to your specific application. DEQ's Air Quality Division permit engineers will be available to discuss your permit application with you one-on-one. To take full advantage of this time with the permit engineer, it is recommended you bring detailed information about your project with you to the session. This training is designed for first-time air permit applicants who need help completing their permit application; however, those who have applied before and need a refresher are welcome to attend as well. Online registration is available on the Web at [www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops](http://www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops), click on "Upcoming DEQ Workshops".

Registration Fee: \$25, which includes parking in the Ellis Parking Lot on the east side of Constitution

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Hall and training manual.

Information Contact: James Ostrowski, Environmental Science and Services Division, 517-241-8057 or [ostrowsj@michigan.gov](mailto:ostrowsj@michigan.gov)

Registration Information: Environmental Assistance Center, 800-662-9278 or [deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov](mailto:deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov)

**OCTOBER 18-20, 2007**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION 2007 NORTHERN/MIDWESTERN AREA CONFERENCE: "ENGINEERING A BRIGHTER FUTURE," RENAISSANCE CENTER, DETROIT.** The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is presenting an overview session of the Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS) at this conference.

Information Contact: Thomas Occhipinti, Executive Division, 517-373-2379 or [occhipit@michigan.gov](mailto:occhipit@michigan.gov)

General conference information: [www.nsta.org/conferences/2007det/](http://www.nsta.org/conferences/2007det/)

**NOVEMBER 5-7, 2007**

**SUCCEEDING WITH A DAM REMOVAL PROJECT, KELLOGG HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, EAST LANSING.** This comprehensive course is being offered by invitation of and in cooperation with American Rivers, Michigan Water Environment Association, Michigan Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The course will evaluate all aspects of dam removal. The workshop will focus on the following topics: key decision points, how to remove a dam, engineering and management issues associated with a range of dam types, sediment management and water quality issues related to dam removal, practical approaches to remove both large and small dams, and dam removal case studies.

For more information, go to <http://epd.engr.wisc.edu/webj460>

Information Contact: Patrick Eagan, 800-462-0876 or [Eagan@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:Eagan@engr.wisc.edu)

**DECEMBER 5, 2007**

**WATER AND WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION PERMITS WORKSHOP, LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WEST CAMPUS, LANSING.** If you're interested in improving your turn-around time for obtaining Act 399 Water System Construction Permits (Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act) and Part 41, Wastewater System Construction Permits, of Act 451 (Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act), the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) can help! This one-day seminar will show communities, developers, and consulting firms how to ensure the quickest review and permitting of projects. Along with reviewing checklists and common problems that hold up processing of applications, the DEQ will review its new expedited process along with the existing Streamline process for water main and sewer main construction permitting to provide for even faster application reviews and permit issuances. Anyone involved in water and sewer construction permitting should attend. Registration Fee: \$125, which includes continental breakfast, lunch, and workshop materials.

Information Contact: Pat Cook, Water Bureau, 517-241-1242 or [cookp@michigan.gov](mailto:cookp@michigan.gov)

Registration Information: Environmental Assistance Center, 800-662-9278 or [deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov](mailto:deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov)

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MAY 5-7, 2008

**BROWNFIELDS 2008, COBO CENTER, DETROIT, MICHIGAN.** Save the date! Gear up for the largest gathering of national and international brownfields stakeholders. With nearly 6,000 attendees, over 150 educational sessions, more than 200 exhibitors, and unrivaled networking events, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the International City/County Management Association co-sponsored National Brownfields Conference is the premier event of its kind. "Brownfields 2008" includes timely and valuable knowledge and skill building workshops, exceptional business development and networking opportunities, and hundreds of product and service providers in the exhibit hall to meet your project needs. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is an endorser of this event. Visit [www.brownfields2008.org](http://www.brownfields2008.org) to learn the latest and sign up for the "Brownfields 2008" e-newsletter. Registration information coming soon.

Information Contact: Ronald Smedley, Remediation and Redevelopment Division, 517-373-4805 or [smedleyr@michigan.gov](mailto:smedleyr@michigan.gov)

<p><i>If you are interested in participating in the development of any Environmental Science and Services Division event, please call <b>Mary Goodhall</b> at <b>517-241-7968</b> or email at <b>goodhalm@michigan.gov</b>.</i></p>
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